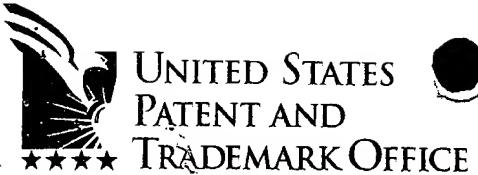


# Exhibit A



3200

MARCH 21, 2003

PTAS

RICHARD H. BUTT  
5655 SILVER CREEK VALLEY ROAD  
#106  
SAN JOSE, CA 95138

Under Secretary of Commerce For Intellectual Property and  
Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Washington, DC 20231  
[www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov)



\*102288660A\*

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RECORDATION DATE: 11/12/2002

REEL/FRAME: 013497/0662  
NUMBER OF PAGES: 5

BRIEF: ASSIGNMENT OF ASSIGNOR'S INTEREST (SEE DOCUMENT FOR DETAILS).

ASSIGNOR:

TREE, JOHN

DOC DATE: 03/20/2001

ASSIGNEE:

SONY CORPORATION  
7-35 KITASHINAGAWA 6-CHOME,  
SHINIGAWA-KU  
TOKYO, JAPAN

ASSIGNEE:

SONY ELECTRONICS INC.  
1 SONY DRIVE  
PARK RIDGE, NEW JERSEY 07656

SERIAL NUMBER: 09827504

FILING DATE: 04/06/2001  
PATENT NUMBER:

ISSUE DATE:

013497/0662 PAGE 2

DOROTHY RILEY, PARALEGAL  
ASSIGNMENT DIVISION  
OFFICE OF PUBLIC RECORDS

11-21-2002

Form PTO-1595  
(Rev. 03/01)

OMB No. 0651-0027 (exp. 5/31/2002)

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102288660

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office

To the Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks: Please record the attached original documents or copy thereof.

## 1. Name of conveying party(ies):

John Tree

11-12-02

Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached?  Yes  No

## 3. Nature of conveyance:

Assignment  Merger  
 Security Agreement  Change of Name  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

Execution Date: 03/20/2001

## 2. Name and address of receiving party(ies)

Name: Sony Corporation

Internal Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: 7-35 Kitashinagawa 6-Chome,

Shinagawa-Ku

City: Tokyo, Japan State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional name(s) & address(es) attached?  Yes  No

## 4. Application number(s) or patent number(s):

If this document is being filed together with a new application, the execution date of the application is: \_\_\_\_\_

A. Patent Application No.(s) 09/827,504

B. Patent No.(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Additional numbers attached?  Yes  No

## 5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:

Name: Richard H. Butt

6. Total number of applications and patents involved:  1

Internal Address: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41)..... \$ 40.00

 Enclosed Authorized to be charged to deposit account

Street Address: 5655 Silver Creek Valley Road

#106

City: San Jose State: CA Zip: 95138

## 8. Deposit account number:

See Transmittal

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FINANCE SECTION

## 9. Signature.

Richard H. Butt

Name of Person Signing

Signature

11/4/02

Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and documents: 

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Washington, D.C. 20231

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2. Name and Address of Receiving Party Continued....

Sony Electronics Inc., 1 Sony Drive, Park Ridge, NJ, 07656

ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, I, John Tree, hereinafter referred to as "ASSIGNOR", have invented certain new and useful improvements as described and set forth in the below-identified application for United States Letters Patent:

Title of Invention: USER INTERFACE FOR AN E-MARKER  
Application (Declaration/Oath) Execution Date: 03-20-01  
Filing Date: ~~03-20-01~~ Application No.: New Application  
~~04/05-01~~

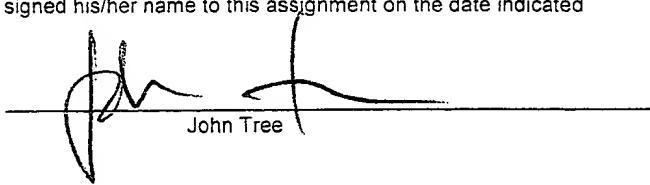
AND WHEREAS, Sony Corporation, a Japanese corporation with offices at 7-35 Kitashinagawa, 6-chome, Shinagawa-ku, Tokyo 141-0001, Japan and Sony Electronics Inc., a Delaware corporation with offices at 123 Tice Blvd., Woodcliff Lake, New Jersey 07675 (hereinafter referenced as ASSIGNEES) are desirous of acquiring all interest in, to and under said invention, said application disclosing the invention and in, to and under any Letters Patent or similar legal protection which may be granted therefor in the United States and in any and all foreign countries.

NOW, THEREFORE, TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN: Be it known that, for One Dollar (\$1.00) and other good and valuable consideration, receipt of which is hereby acknowledged by Assignor, Assignor has sold, assigned and transferred, and by these presents does sell, assign and transfer unto the said Assignees, and Assignees' successors and assigns, all right, title and interest in and to the said invention, said application for United States Letters Patent, and any Letters Patent which may hereafter be granted on the same in the United States and all countries throughout the world including any divisions, renewals, continuations in whole or in part, substitutions, conversions, reissues, prolongations or extensions thereof, said interest to be held and enjoyed by said Assignees as fully and exclusively as it would have been held and enjoyed by said Assignor had this assignment and transfer not been made, to the full end and term of any such Letters Patent.

Assignor further agrees that he will, without charge to said Assignees, but at Assignees' expense, cooperate with Assignees in the prosecution of said application and/or applications, execute, verify, acknowledge and deliver all such further papers, including applications for Letters Patent and for the reissue thereof, and instruments of assignment and transfer thereof, and will perform such other acts as Assignees lawfully may request, to obtain or maintain Letters Patent for said invention and improvement in any and all countries, and to vest title thereto in said Assignees, or Assignees' successors and assigns.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, Assignor has hereunto signed his/her name to this assignment on the date indicated below.

Date: 10 March 2001



John Tree

State of \_\_\_\_\_

County of \_\_\_\_\_

On \_\_\_\_\_ before me, \_\_\_\_\_

personally appeared \_\_\_\_\_ personally known to me or proved to me on the basis of satisfactory evidence to be the person(s) whose name(s) is/are subscribed to the within instrument and acknowledged to me that he/she/they executed the same in his/her/their authorized capacity(ies), and that by his/her/their signature(s) on the instrument the person(s), or the entity upon behalf of which the person(s) acted, executed the instrument.

WITNESS my hand and official seal.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Notary

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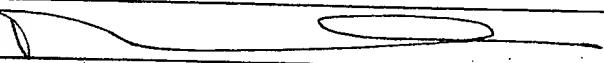
(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

		Application Number	09/827,504
		Filing Date	04/06/2001
		First Named Inventor	Tree
		Group Art Unit	2152
		Examiner Name	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission		Attorney Docket Number	Sony-03200

## ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

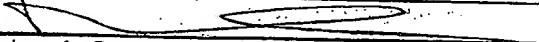
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<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) 6 Sheets	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
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<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition Routing Slip (PTO/SB/69) and Accompanying Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> To Convert a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Executed Declaration
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Additional Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	<input type="checkbox"/> Recordation Form Cover Sheet and attachment
<input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> Postcard
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Request of Refund	<input type="checkbox"/> Credit Card Authorization \$40.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application	Remarks	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No: <u>50-1963</u> . A duplicate copy of this authorization is enclosed.	

## SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	Richard H. Butt
Signature	
Date	11/4/02

## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on this date: 11/4/02

Type or printed name	Richard H. Butt
Signature	
Date <u>11/4/02</u>	

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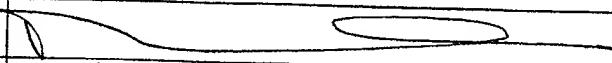
<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b>		Application Number	09/827,504
		Filing Date	04/06/2001
		First Named Inventor	Tree
		Group Art Unit	2152
		Examiner Name	
Total Number of Pages in This Submission		Attorney Docket Number	Sony-03200

## ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

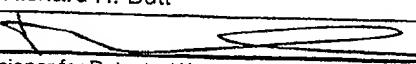
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Response <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application  <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application) <u>1</u> Pages <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) 6 Sheets <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition Routing Slip (PTO/SB/69) and Accompanying Petition <input type="checkbox"/> To Convert a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Request of Refund	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Executed Declaration <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Additional Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
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## SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm or Individual name	Richard H. Butt
Signature	
Date	11/4/02

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Type or printed name	Richard H. Butt
Signature	
SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.	Date <u>11/4/02</u>